

The US may also see the Shanghai grouping of central Asian states—including China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan—as natural allies in its war against Muslim terrorists. This grouping is already swapping intelligence and considering security arrangements to combat extremism.

China fears that Muslim extremism could infect its western province of Xinjiang. Russia is fighting Muslim opponents in Chechnya and Tajikistan. To varying degrees, the central Asian states are all concerned that Muslim militants could undermine their own regimes. But many of these countries are characterized by blatant abuse of minority rights and hostility towards the Muslim opposition.

President George W. Bush has made a commendably forthright defence of Arab Americans. He should be equally strong in support of peacefully oriented Muslims throughout central Asia. In a traditional war the enemies of your enemies may be counted as your friends. But Mr. Bush has launched a new kind of war for justice that ultimately can only succeed by winning over hearts and minds.

The US should be as steadfast in its defence of Muslim moderates as it is ferocious in attacking terrorism. The natural allies of the US in central Asia may be counted more among its peoples rather than its regimes.

[From the Washington Post, Mon., Sept. 24, 2001]

WHAT TO FIGHT FOR

In explaining to Americans the war he would lead against terrorism, President Bush on Thursday described the enemy as heir to the “murderous ideologies” against which this country fought for most of the last century: fascism, Nazism and totalitarianism. As with those ideologies, he said, the terrorists responsible for the Sept. 11 attack sacrifice human life to their radical vision of the world and respect no value but the “will to power.”

The analogy is powerful in many ways. It reinforces Mr. Bush's message that the struggle will be long; the United States fought communist totalitarianism for many decades. It bolsters also the message that the struggle will be fought on many fronts—not just military but, as in the Cold War, economic, political, propaganda and more. Above all it elevates the struggle to a seriousness that cannot be slighted, by this or future administrations; if the enemy is aiming for the destruction of civilization, no priority could be more important than that enemy's destruction. As during the Cold War, the United States might take on other tasks and causes but must never forget the long-term ideological struggle.

But precisely for that reason—because Mr. Bush has put this war at the very forefront of the nation's agenda—it is important to be careful and precise in measuring the foe and setting the goals. Is it the entire story, for example, that the terrorists target America because they hate its open society? Mr. Bush described a fight between freedom and fear, and that is part of it. But then why do the terrorists also target authoritarian regimes such as those of Uzbekistan or Saudi Arabia? It's important to recognize distinctions where they exist—among different terrorist organizations and among varying goals even within organizations. And it's important to think about the ways in which “a fringe form of Islamic extremism,” as Mr. Bush described the ideology of the foe, also might differ from the hostile ideologies of the past century in tactics, goals and sweep.

As in the Cold War, the new struggle will put the United States in league with allies of

convenience, unsavory ones at times. Already, to root out the terrorists in Afghanistan, the United States finds itself pondering cooperation with the despotic regime of Central Asia's Uzbekistan. Saudi Arabia, an intolerant monarchy, is sought as a partner. China, the largest remaining outpost of communism, now is suggested as an ally in the war against terrorism. Such regimes may work with the United States because they also fear the Islamic extremists, but not in defense of freedom. To the dictators of China and Central Asia, the terrorists may represent chaos, a challenge to state authority; but no one running those countries views democracy as the alternative to Islamic extremism.

In forming tactical bonds with such nations America must not forget what it is fighting for as well as what it is fighting against. In the struggles against Nazism and communism the United States allied with repressive regimes, sometimes wisely, sometimes to its detriment. In the long run, democracy will be the best antidote to religious extremism. And just as in its past struggles, the U.S. fight against this latest foe will succeed best if the country is seen to be promoting the freedoms Mr. Bush championed Thursday night: “our freedom of religion, or freedom of speech, our freedom to vote and assemble and disagree with each other.”

IN HONOR OF THE FRIENDS OF
DAG HAMMARSKOLD PLAZA AND
TURTLE BAY ASSOCIATION'S
NIGHT OF REMEMBRANCE FOR
THE EIGHTH BATTALION ENGINE
EIGHT AND LADDER TWO OF
THE NEW YORK CITY FIRE DE-
PARTMENT AND THE SEVEN-
TEENTH POLICE PRECINCT OF
THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DE-
PARTMENT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, New York City was forever changed by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Our bonds with each other as New Yorkers and Americans are stronger now than ever before. As our compassion for our fellow New Yorkers has grown, so has our respect and admiration for New York City's firefighters and police officers. Our sense of gratitude cannot be fully expressed in words.

This crisis has touched the heart of the nation. It has engendered unprecedented acts of altruism and a remarkable outpouring of support and coordination to assist the city of New York.

The heroic men and women of the New York City Fire Department and New York City Police Department must be commended for their tireless and heroic rescue and recovery efforts. Each firefighter and police officer in their own way, acted quickly and decisively, saving thousands of lives in the face of extreme danger on September 11, 2001.

Every fire station and police precinct in New York City contributed to the rescue work. Most lost friends, partners, and colleagues. New York's Bravest and Finest from the Eighth Battalion, Engine Eight and Ladder Two, of the

New York City Fire Department and the Seventeenth Police Precinct of New York City were among those who responded to this terrorist attack without hesitation; risking and, in too many tragic instances, sacrificing their own lives to save the lives of others.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the men and women of the Eighth Battalion, Engine Eight and Ladder Two, of the New York City Fire Department and the Seventeenth Police Precinct of New York City, for their great courage, sacrifice, and enduring spirit in this time of crisis; for risking their lives every day as part of their jobs; for going beyond the call of duty through acts of tremendous and unparalleled heroism on September 11, 2001, and for selflessly continuing to protect New York and its residents from danger in the wake of the worst attack against the United States in the nation's history.

Please join me in extending heartfelt sympathies to the families of all those lost in the tragedy. I also want to honor with our thoughts and prayers those men from the Eighth Battalion, Engine Eight and Ladder Two, of the New York City Fire Department who sacrificed their lives on September 11, 2001: Chief Thomas D'Angelis, Captain Frederick III, Firefighters Michael Clarke, George DiPasquale, Dennis Germain, Daniel Harlin, Thomas McCann, Carl Molinaro, Dennis Mulligan, and Robert Parro. We will never forget.

Let us today reaffirm our support and commitment to all of the Nation's law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians as they selflessly serve their communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRANK P.
PERRUCCI

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Frank Perrucci. On Saturday, October 27, 2001, the Sicilian Citizen's Club will honor Mr. Perrucci at its 74th Annual Dinner Dance at the Villa Nova in Bayonne, New Jersey.

Frank Perrucci, a native of Bayonne, attended Jersey City State College and Saint Peter's College. A distinguished World War II veteran, he joined the U.S. Maritime Service in 1994 at the age of seventeen. In addition, he honorably served in the U.S. Army from 1945 until 1947.

Throughout his extensive career, Frank Perrucci served and represented the residents of Hudson County, New Jersey. From 1979 until 1984, he was Director of Community Development for the City of Bayonne. In 1984, he served as Secretary to the Warden of the Hudson County Jail. He currently serves as the Secretary to the Register of Hudson County.

In addition to this civic responsibilities, Frank Perrucci has vigorously advocated for the fair and equal treatment of employees working in Hudson County. For 12 years, he served as President of the Laborer's International Union of North America Local 202. Furthermore, for 20 years, he served as a Trustee of the Board for the Agents Trade